GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1288
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
SWASTHYA BIMA YOJANA FOR UNORGANISED WORKERS
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) is providing medical facilities to workers of organised sector;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to extend ESIC facilities to the workers engaged in unorganised sector under Swasthya Bima Yojana;

(c) if so, the details thereof and guidelines issued to ESIC in this regard;

(d) the time by which the said scheme is likely to be implemented;

(e) whether the Government has received any complaints/suggestions regarding inadequate medical facilities available in the ESI hospitals/dispensaries in the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(g) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a): Yes, Sir. The Employees` State Insurance Corporation is providing medical facilities to workers earning wages upto Rs.10,000/- per month in the organized sector.

(b) to (d): The Employees` State Insurance Corporation in its 140th Meeting held on 11.10.2007 has approved the participation of Employees` State Insurance Corporation in the Health Insurance Scheme for workers in the unorganized sector and amendment in Section 59(1) of Employees` State Insurance Act enabling opening of facilities in Hospitals to non-insured persons on payment of user charges.

Under this Scheme, Employees` State Insurance Corporation has identified 90 hospitals all over the country (where there is under utilized capacity), which will be made available to the workers in the unorganized sector under the Health Insurance Scheme. Action will be taken only on receipt of specific proposals from the State Government who will be implementing the Scheme and would like the Employees State Insurance Hospitals falling in the area to act as a health service provider.

(e) to (g):- Some complaints/suggestions for improvement in the medical facilities are received from time to time. The action taken for improvement of medical facilities in Employees` State Insurance Hospitals are as under:

i) Modernization & upgradation of hospitals by providing modern equipments for diagnostic and clinical services. To facilitate early sanction of equipments for hospitals, Sr. State Medical Commissioners/State Medical Commissioners have been delegated powers to sanction equipments up to Rs.15 lacs per unit at the State level itself.

ii) Employees` State Insurance Corporation has increased the ceiling for providing medical care from Rs.900/- to Rs.1,000/- per Insured Person family unit per annum w.e.f. 01.04.2007 to facilitate State Governments with more funds to improve medical services in ESI Hospitals. Besides this, an additional incentive of Rs.50/- per Insured Person per family unit will be given to the State Government on fulfilling stipulated terms and conditions for improvement of medical scheme.

iii) Employees` State Insurance Corporation is incurring total expenditure on construction/repair and maintenance of hospital buildings at its sole cost and sharing expenditure on equipments costing above Rs.25000/- per unit outside the ceiling.

iv) Employees` State Insurance Corporation has introduced the Scheme of Revolving Fund for providing advance/reimbursement for super speciality/ speciality treatment, purchase & repair & maintenance of equipments.

v) Tie up arrangements have been made with other reputed Government/Non Government Hospitals for providing super speciality

services, which are not available in ESI Hospitals.

vi) Employees State Insurance Corporation has got seven ESIC Hospitals graded by professional agencies and the process for grading of other ESIC Hospitals has been initiated.

vii) The Employees` State Insurance Corporation is in the process of getting hospital ISO 9001-2000 certification. One ESI Hospital and one ESI Dispensary in Delhi have already been granted ISO certification.

viii) Employees` State Insurance Corporation is encouraging computerization and incurs total expenditure on provision of computers to ESI Hospitals.